

MARCH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND THE
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1960.

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MARCH

Public Health Committee

Chairman - H. A. Orbell Esq.

Messrs. Councillors G. A. J. Campbell
J. S. Collingwood
T. H. Ellingham
A. J. Goss
H. W. Papworth
E. Smith (deceased)

Medical Officer of Health

J. C. Burns, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
Town Hall, March Telephone: March 2331.

Public Health Inspector

H. Burton, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerical Staff

Miss. J. Band

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MARCH

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1960

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my report for the year 1960, together with a report from the Public Health Inspector.

I wish to record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their interest and support and to my colleagues on the Council's staff for their assistance and co-operation.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. C. BURNS.

Medical Officer of Health.

General Statistics

Area in acres.	19,786
Population (Registrar General's Estimate for 1960) .	13,280
Number of inhabited houses	4,435
Number of houses owned by the Council	852
Rateable Value	£152,872
Amount represented by 1d. rate (1959/60)	£614.18.2d

The area of the Urban District remained unchanged at 19,786 acres and the estimated population increased by 80 to 13,280. The main employment is either industrial, the large railway marshalling yards being situated within the district boundary, or agricultural, the surrounding farm land being rich and fertile.

Vital Statistics

Live Births

Number	{ Male 112 }	Total .	201
	{ Female 89 }		

Rate per 1,000 population 15.14

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births 2.98

Stillbirths

Number	{ Male 2 }	Total .	4
	{ Female 2 }		

Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths . 19.51

Total Live and Stillbirths	{ Male 114 }	Total .	205
	{ Female 91 }		

Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)

	{ Male 1 }	Total .	3
	{ Female 2 }		

Infant Mortality Rates

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births 14.93

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate

live births 15.38

Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate

live births Nil

Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000

total live births) 14.93

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per

1,000 total live births) 9.95

Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1

week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths) 29.27

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths Nil

Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths . Nil

Death Rate per 1,000 population 10.76

<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	2	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	3	-	3
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	6	6
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	8	8	16
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	2	2
Diabetes	1	2	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	12	8	20
Coronary disease, angina	17	2	19
Hypertension with heart disease	2	-	2
Other heart disease	12	14	26
Other circulatory disease	2	1	3
Pneumonia	7	6	13
Bronchitis	-	2	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	2	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	-	3
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2
Congenital malformations	-	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	5	11
All other accidents	1	-	1
Suicide	-	2	2
	78	65	143

The following table gives the percentage of deaths in the principal age groups.

Under 1 year	2.09
1 - 5 years	0.69
6 - 15 years	-
16 - 65 years	30.77
66 and over	66.45
	100.00%

Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases

The following infectious diseases were notified during the year.

Puerperal Pyrexia	1
Measles	6
Erysipelas	1
Scarlet Fever	8
Tuberculosis - Pulmonary	2
	18

Food Hygiene

The Public Health Inspector's report contains the necessary comments on this subject.

Food Poisoning

No case of food poisoning was reported during 1960.

National Assistance Act

No action was taken under the above Act during 1960.

Factories Act, 1937 - 1959

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1960 FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL OF MURCH IN THE COUNTY OF THE ISLE OF ELY.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act, 1937

PART I OF THE ACT

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provision as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4			
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	45	7		
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	2			
Total	51	7	-	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or
or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two,
three or more "cases")

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of clean- liness (S.1)					
Overcrowding (S.2)					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)					
Sanitary Con- veniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient					
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	1		2	
(c) Not separate for sexes					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences re- lating to Out- work)					
Total	2	1	-	2	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)	Section 110		Section 111		
		No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing) Making apparel) etc., Cleaning and Washing	1					
Household linen						
Lace, lace curtain and nets						
Curtains and furniture hangings						
Furniture and upholstery						
Electro-plate						
File making						
Brass and brass articles						
Fur pulling						
Iron and steel cables & chains						
Iron and Steel anchors and grapnels						
Cart gear						
Locks, latches and keys						
Umbrellas etc.						
Artificial flowers						
Nets, other than wire nets						
Tents						
Sacks						
Racquet and tennis balls						
Paper bags						
C/fd.	1					

PART VIII OF THE ACT (CONTD.)

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
B/fd	1					
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper						
Brush making						
Pea picking						
Feather sorting						
Carding, etc. of buttons etc						
Stuffed toys						
Basket making						
Chocolates & sweetmeats						
Cosagues, Christmas stockings etc.						
Textile weaving						
Lampshades						
TOTAL	1					

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MARCH

Public Health Inspector's Report for the year 1960

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following are details of visits, interviews, inspections and re-inspections carried out in 1960.

Public Health Act.	Nuisances)
Housing Act.	Disrepair)
Ashes Accommodation	.
Accumulations .	.
Animals or Birds.	.
Cellars - Flooding	.
Cesspools .	.
Common Lodging House	.
Clean Air .	.
Cinemas .	.
Dairies .	.
Drainage .	.
Food Hygiene .	.
Fried Fish Shops and Stalls	.
Factories .	.
Food Preparing Premises	.
General Food Premises.	.
Ice Cream Premises	.
Infectious Diseases	.
Interviews .	.
Knackers Yard .	.
Moveable Dwellings	.
Meat Shops .	.
Miscellaneous .	.
Pet Animals Act .	.
Petroluem Spirit.	.
Rats and Mice (including sewers)	.
Piggeries .	.
Slaughterhouses .	.
Shops Act .	.
Sanitary Accommodation	.
Vermin. .	.
Water Supplies .	.
Yards, Courts, etc.	.

The following tables show defects found and remedied during the year by action under Public Health and Housing Acts.

	<u>Defects found</u>	<u>Defects remedied</u>	<u>Outstanding at the end of 1960</u>
<u>Sanitary Accommodation and Drains</u>			
No artificial light (Factories)	2	1	1
Defective pail closet	1	1	-
Defective sink and waste pipe	1	1	-
Blocked drains	7	7	-
Flooding in back gardens	2	2	-
C/fd.	13	12	1

	<u>Defects found</u>	<u>Defects remedied</u>	<u>Outstanding at the end of 1960</u>
B/fd.	13	12	1
<u>Verminous Infestation</u>			
Rats and mice	12	12	-
Ants	1	1	-
Fleas	2	2	-
Wasps	15	15	-
<u>Housing Defects</u>			
Defective door frame	1	1	-
" window cords	1	1	-
" roof tiles	8	6	2
" floorboards	1	-	1
" windows	3	1	2
" door	1	-	1
" eaves gutters	1	-	1
" ceiling plaster	1	1	-
" coal shed	1	1	-
<u>Food Hygiene</u>			
Smoking in food premises	2	2	-
Cover on stall	1	1	-
Name and address on van	1	1	-
Accumulations	5	5	-
Dustbins	1	1	-
Obnoxious odours	4	4	-
Smoke nuisances	3	3	-
	78	70	8

Table of Notices served during 1960

	<u>Served during 1960</u>	<u>Complied with by 31.12.60</u>
Public Health and Housing Acts		
Verbal	13	11
Letter	18	15
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949		
Verbal	30	30
Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955		
Verbal	4	4
Clean Air Act, 1956		
Verbal	3	3
Factories Act, 1937		
Verbal	1	1
Letter	1	-
	70	64

HOUSING

It is interesting to note that during 1960 the Council made three Demolition Orders and six Closing Orders. Nine houses were actually demolished which included some from Demolition Orders made during 1959. Four families were re-housed by the Council and one family re-housed themselves during the year.

Two applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received during 1960. One was refused and an undertaking to carry out work was received from the remaining owner.

DRAINAGE

The subsidiary sewers were completed by the end of 1959 and it is hoped that the encouraging start which has been made on the conversion of vaults and pail closets will be continued.

WATER SUPPLY

Extensions to the water mains were completed during 1959 and where mains have been laid many new connections have been made to properties.

The following is the information requested by the Ministry:-

- (1) Whether the water supply of the area and of its parts has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.
Yes.
- (2) Where there is a piped supply, whether bacteriological examinations have been made of the raw water, and the results of any analysis.
No samples were taken during the year, but the water is known to be examined at regular intervals by the Water Board.
- (3) The position as to contamination by lead.
The water is hard and has no plumbo solvent action.
- (4) Action as to contamination.
There has been no evidence of contamination during the year.
- (5) Particulars of the proportion of dwelling houses and the proportion of population supplied from the public water mains.
(a) direct to house - 88%. (b) by means of stand pipes - 10%.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

The above Act brought into force, as from 29th August, 1960 a new licensing system for caravans. Site licences are issued by each local authority only after planning permission has been obtained and at the end of the year two site licences had been issued under the above Act. Seventeen other licences had been issued prior to the coming into operation of the new Act and these will be renewed as and when they require a renewal of their planning permission. In conjunction with other Local Authorities in the Isle of Ely conditions are attached to all site licences for securing satisfactory facilities in relation to sanitary accommodation, fire and other matters.

RAG FLOCK ACT, 1951

Under the above Act, which is enforced by the Council, one registration has been approved, but so far no samples have been taken.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

At present four premises are registered under the above Act and these are subject to inspection by the R.S.P.C.A. and myself.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

Two smoke observations have been taken under the Clean Air Act and in each case these observations were satisfactory.

One installation has also been approved under the Act.

RATS AND MICE

The refuse dumps are treated regularly and the sewers have been dealt with in accordance with the recommendations laid down by the Ministry. Infestation in the sewers is almost negligible and it has been intimated by letter that test baiting need not be carried out quite so frequently in the future.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Slaughterhouses Act, 1958

The above Act required each Local Authority to review, after consultation with local organisations the existing and probable future requirements of their district for slaughterhouse facilities and the slaughterhouse facilities which are, or are likely to become, available to meet those requirements. Accordingly a report was submitted to the Ministry in which it was recommended that 1st January, 1962 be the appointed date on which the new construction regulations would apply to the Urban District of March and this date has now been accepted.

Four slaughterhouses (including one new set of premises) were licensed during 1960 but by the 31st December, 1960 one slaughterhouse owner had ceased slaughtering.

The number of animals killed during the year at the four slaughterhouses is as follows:- 9 cows, 9 calves, 790 other bovines, 1067 sheep, 3264 pigs and 21 goats giving a total of 5160, which was slightly below the 1959 total of 5657. In order to inspect these animals a total of 895 visits was required to the four slaughterhouses and this figure includes 110 evening and week-end visits.

Mention must be made here of the consideration received from the slaughtermen and butchers whose co-operation does facilitate the easier working of a system of meat inspection.

Twenty-one slaughterman's licences were issued during 1960.

Condemnations include the following whole carcasses:- 1 beast, 1 sheep, 2 calves and 20 pigs - total 24 which, together with a quantity of offal and parts of carcasses brings the total weight of meat and offal condemned up to 2 tons 18 cwts. 11½ lbs. which is a decrease on the 1959 figure when the total was 3 tons 9 cwts. 13 lbs.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned
from 1st January, 1960 to 31st December, 1960

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	790	9	9	1067	3264	-
Number inspected	790	9	9	1067	3264	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u> Whole carcases condemned.	1	-	2	1	19	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	35	5	1	2	24	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis.	4.56	55.55	33.33	0.28	1.32	-
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u> Whole carcases condemned.	-	-	-	-	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	6	-	-	-	42	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	0.76	-	-	-	1.32	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u> Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	3	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	3	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-

OTHER FOODS

Inspections were made during the year of stocks of other food stuffs and the following were condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

(1) <u>Miscellaneous</u>	lbs.	ozs.
Halibut	23	8
Haddock	14	-
Brisket of beef	4	-
	41	8

(2) <u>Tinned Goods</u>	<u>No. of tins</u>	lbs.	ozs.
Chopped pork	2	8	-
Corned beef	5	30	-
Luncheon meat	4	2	1
Minced beef loaf	1		12
Ham	1	10	12
Tomatoes	4	4	11
Rice puddings	2	1	15
Fruit	9	8	11
Milk	1		14 $\frac{1}{2}$
Stewed steak	1	1	-
Mixed vegetables	1	1	13
Crabmeat	1		7 $\frac{3}{4}$
Salmon	1		7 $\frac{1}{2}$
	33	71	8 $\frac{3}{4}$

All unsound food was voluntarily surrendered and in no case was seizure under the Food and Drugs Act required.

Under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1949/54, the Council issued 6 Dealer's Licences for Tuberculin Tested Milk, 7 Dealer's Licences for Pasteurised Milk, 5 Dealer's Licences for Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk and 7 Dealer's Licences for Sterilised Milk. Under the new milk Regulations these will in future be issued by the County Council, who will also be responsible for taking samples.

The following samples were taken giving the results as shown:-

Pasteurised Milk

No. of samples taken	Satisfied Methylene Blue Test	Satisfied Phosphatase Test	Failed both test
14	5	14	-

The Methylene Blue Test was not carried out on 9 of the above samples because the atmospheric shade temperature was over 65°F.

Tuberculin Tested Milk

No. of samples taken	Satisfied Methylene Blue Test	Failed Test
4	4	-

Six samples of Sterilised Milk were taken, all six satisfied the Turbidity Test.

Churn Rinses

During 1960, 12 samples of Churn Rinses have been submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Cambridge. The following are the results:-

No. of samples taken	Satisfactory	Fairly Satisfactory	Un-satisfactory
12	12	-	-

Food Hygiene

The Minister requests that reports of previous years should be amplified to include the following information:-

- (1) the number, if available, of food premises in the area by type of business:

Green grocery	11
Grocery	28
Butchers	19
Fish shops	12
Bakehouses	4
Confectionery	17
Cafes & Restaurants	7
Mineral Water Premises	1

99

In addition there are some 42 licensed premises including clubs.

- (2) the number of food premises by type registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, or under Local Acts, and the number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949/54.

Premises registered for the sale of ice cream -	37
Premises registered for the preparation of meat pies and sausages -	19
Premises registered for the sale of fish and chips -	11
See page 14 for Milk Licences issued.	

- (3) the number of inspections of registered food premises with informative comment as necessary.

Inspections of registered food premises and other food shops generally (including slaughterhouses) are shown on page 9.

- (4) any new educational activity (e.g. inauguration of clean food guilds or lectures on food hygiene) and the progress of established educational activity.

No clean food guilds have been established.

- (5) the method of disposal of condemned food.

Where condemnation certificates are issued for tinned food etc., the food is collected and disposed of by the Council. Condemned meat at the slaughterhouses is collected by contractors for processing.

- (6) where special examination of a stock or of a consignment of food has been necessary, the total quantity as well as the quantity condemned.

The lists on page 14 show the total weight of food condemned.

- (7) reference to the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment etc.,) Regulations, 1947-1952.

Twenty-three samples of ice cream were taken during the year and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Cambridge. The provisional grading of samples was as follows:-

Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Total
22	-	1	-	23

It will be observed that 96% of these samples were classified Grade 1. At the end of the year 37 shops were registered for the sale of ice cream. There is one manufacturer in the area.

No samples of iced lollies were taken during 1960.

- (8) reference to the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960.

Some 143 food premises (including shops, slaughterhouses and licensed premises) were inspected during 1960 for compliance with the above Regulations.

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 and 1936

Under the above Acts 56 licences were issued for the storage of Petroleum Spirit and 2 for the storage of Calcium Carbide. All these premises were visited and generally found to be in compliance with the Acts. Verbal notices were given where contraventions occurred.

In conclusion, I should like to take the opportunity of thanking the Members of the Council and my colleagues on the Staff for their helpful co-operation.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. Burton,

Public Health Inspector.

20th June, 1961.

